

## NHL MORNING SKATE: STANLEY CUP FINAL EDITION – JUNE 5, 2024



**NHL Morning Skate** Wednesday, June 5, 2024

- Nineteen players on Panthers, Oilers roster have Stanley Cup Final experience
- Perry set to achieve NHL first during fifth appearance in championship series
- Panthers vs. Oilers a battle of strong special-teams, clutch scorers in Verhaeghe and Hyman

\* Nineteen players on the two rosters have Stanley Cup Final experience, including 13 returnees from Florida’s run to the [2023 Final](#) and Edmonton forward **Corey Perry** who could become the first in League history to represent five franchises in the championship series.

\* **Carter Verhaeghe** and **Zach Hyman** look to continue their clutch playoff scoring, while **Sam Reinhart** and the Panthers aim to solve the Oilers’ effective penalty kill which hasn’t yielded a power-play goal in nearly one month.

\* **Ken Holland** and **Bill Zito** had a hand in acquiring nearly all of the current Edmonton and Florida players with Final experience. The [2024 Stanley Cup Final Information Guide](#) – featuring notes on the matchup including a “How They Were Built” section on pages 8-9 as well as comprehensive statistics, records and trends from both the Final and entire postseason – is now available on the League’s Media site.

STANLEY CUP FINAL 2024

SATURDAY, JUNE 8



GAME 1 · 8 ET

AMERANT BANK ARENA

WATCH THE STANLEY CUP FINAL ON abc ESPN+ SPORTSNET CBC TVA SPORTS

### VERHAEGHE, TARASENKO, PERRY PACE GROUP OF 19 PLAYERS WITH FINAL EXPERIENCE

The rosters for Florida (13-17—30 in 74 GP) and Edmonton (11-10—21 in 42 GP) feature a combined 24 goals, 51 points and 116 games including 35 wins in the Final but just three previous Stanley Cup winners in **Carter Verhaeghe** ([who won in Edmonton in 2020](#)), **Vladimir Tarasenko** and **Corey Perry**.

\* Verhaeghe (1-1—2 in 8 GP) and Tarasenko (3-1—4 in 7 GP), who captured a Cup with the [2020 Lightning](#) and [2019 Blues](#), respectively, have the most games of Final experience among current Florida players. Verhaeghe appeared in three contests against Perry, **Mattias Janmark** and the Stars during the [2020 Final](#), while Tarasenko skated in all seven contests versus the Bruins during the [2019 championship series](#).

\* **Matthew Tkachuk** (2-1—3 in 4 GP) and **Brandon Montour** (2-2—4 in 5 GP) shared the team lead with two goals in the [2023 Final](#), while Montour's four points were tied with **Sam Bennett** (1-3—4 in 5 GP) for the most among Panthers players. Verhaeghe scored the overtime winner in [Game 3](#) to clinch the franchise's first-ever victory during the championship series – he is one of [11 active players to tally an overtime goal in the Final](#), with that group also including Perry who did so versus Verhaeghe in [Game 5 of the 2020 championship series](#).



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

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\* Perry (7-6—13 in 22 GP) is one of five current Oilers players to play at least one game in the Final, with the others being Janmark (1-2—3 in 6 GP), **Mattias Ekholm** (1-2—3 in 6 GP), **Adam Henrique** (2-0—2 in 6 GP) and **Brett Kulak** (2 GP). Ekholm appeared in the championship series with the [2017 Predators](#) and Henrique did so with the [2012 Devils](#), while Kulak and Janmark skated alongside Perry with the [2021 Canadiens](#) and [2020 Stars](#), respectively.

\* Perry is set to make the [fifth Final appearance of his NHL career](#) after also skating in the championship series with the [2022 Lightning](#) and [2007 Ducks](#), which included winning a title with Anaheim. He'll become the first player in League history to play at least one game in the Final with five different franchises.



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# STANLEY CUP FINAL WITH 4+ DIFFERENT FRANCHISES

NHL HISTORY

STANLEY CUP FINAL 2024

PLAYER	TEAMS	TOTAL
COREY PERRY*	EDM, TBL, MTL, DAL, ANA	5
DARRYL SYDOR	PIT, TBL, DAL, LAK	4
MARTIN GELINAS	CGY, CAR, VAN, EDM	4
PAUL COFFEY	PHI, DET, PIT, EDM	4
AL ARBOUR	STL, TOR, CHI, DET	4
AB McDONALD	STL, DET, CHI, MTL	4
LARRY HILLMAN	MTL, TOR, BOS, DET	4



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\*Set to appear in Final with his fifth franchise

## SPECIAL TEAMS HAVE BEEN EXACTLY THAT FOR BOTH CLUBS: SPECIAL

Oilers forward **Leon Draisaitl** leads the League with [six power-play goals in the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs](#), while teammate **Zach Hyman** ranks tied for second with five followed by the combination of Oilers forward **Ryan Nugent-Hopkins** and the Panthers duo of **Sam Reinhart** and **Carter Verhaeghe** with four apiece. Overall, both clubs are having the special-teams success among the best in franchise playoff history.

\* Edmonton's power play is clicking at a 37.3% clip, tops in the NHL this postseason and second-best in franchise playoff history behind only the 46.2% success rate they had in 2023 – which was the [best by any team on record](#) (even without a games-played minimum). The Oilers' penalty-kill rate of 93.9% is the [best they have ever had in a postseason](#) (again, no GP minimum needed) and includes an active stretch of 28 consecutive successful penalty kills – their last power-play goal against will have been nearly a month ago by the time of Game 1 on Saturday (last PP GA: [Game 3 of R2](#) on May 12).



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

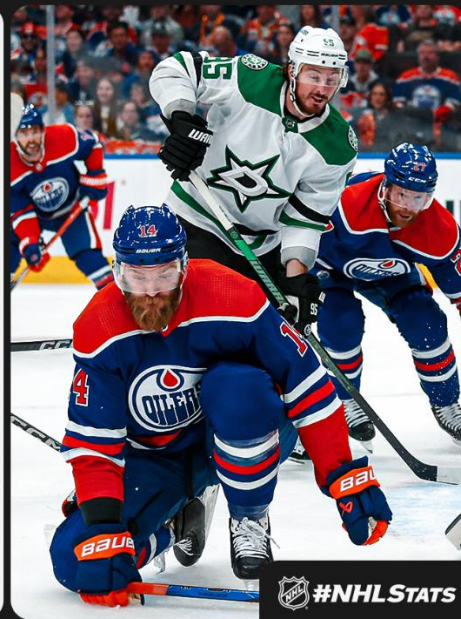
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# MOST CONSECUTIVE SUCCESSFUL PENALTY KILLS

SINGLE POSTSEASON, SINCE 2001

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS 2024

TEAM	START DATE	END DATE	CONSECUTIVE PKs
2006 DUCKS*	APRIL 29	MAY 19	39
2001 BLUES	APRIL 12	MAY 1	34
2021 CANADIENS	MAY 27	JUNE 28	32
2011 LIGHTNING	APRIL 20	MAY 3	32
2007 RED WINGS	APRIL 30	MAY 15	32
2003 SENATORS	APRIL 17	MAY 17	32
2013 BRUINS	MAY 25	JUNE 19	30
2013 BLACKHAWKS	APRIL 30	MAY 23	30
2012 KINGS	APRIL 22	MAY 20	30
2024 OILERS	MAY 14	ACTIVE	28
2001 MAPLE LEAFS	APRIL 13	APRIL 28	28



\*Longest on record in playoffs (since 1977-78)

\* The Oilers can become the first team since the 2011 Lightning to finish the playoffs ranking [first in both power-play](#) and [penalty-kill percentage](#) (min. 10 GP). Edmonton has 19 power-play goals and have allowed just three against in the 2024 playoffs, good for a +16 differential which only one team on record has maintained through the end of a postseason (2019 Bruins: +16; [24 PP GF](#), [8 PP GA](#)).

\* Florida's power play has scored on 23.3% of its opportunities, tops in franchise playoff history for years in which they played in more than one round. Their 14 power-play goals are [tied for the most in a single postseason in franchise history](#), equaling the mark set during their run to the 1996 Final. The Panthers' penalty kill rate of 88.2% trails only the Oilers for tops in the NHL this postseason and also stands as their best in a postseason in which they advanced past the opening round.

\* Reinhart tallied 32 goals on special teams during the regular season, including a [franchise record-shattering 27 on the power play](#) – the second highest total by an active player behind the 32 tallied by Draisaitl in 2022-23 (who added another 21 in 2023-24 to rank second in the NHL behind Reinhart).

**MOST SPECIAL-TEAM GOALS IN A SEASON, INCLUDING PLAYOFFS**  
NHL HISTORY

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS 2024

PLAYER	TEAMS	SEASON	PPG	SHG	TOTAL
MARIO LEMIEUX	PIT	1988-89	38	14	52
MARIO LEMIEUX	PIT	1995-96	34	9	43
LEON DRAISAITL	EDM	2022-23	38	1	39
MIKE BOSSY	NYI	1980-81	37	2	39
SAM REINHART	FLA	2023-24	31	5	36
DAVE ANDREYCHUK	BUF, TOR	1992-93	36	0	36



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### **HOLLAND, ZITO HOPE FOR TITLE AFTER CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DETROIT, CLEVELAND**

**Ken Holland** and **Bill Zito** were named general manager of the Oilers and Panthers, respectively, within the last six years. Holland was at the helm when Edmonton acquired each of its five skaters with experience in the championship series, while Zito was responsible for getting nearly all of the current Florida players who have led the franchise to consecutive Final appearances except **Sergei Bobrovsky** (signed July 1, 2019), **Aaron Ekblad** (drafted June 27, 2014) and **Aleksander Barkov** (drafted June 30, 2013).

\* Holland captured Cups as general manager with the [2008](#), [2002](#) and [1998 Red Wings](#) and was assistant GM when the club claimed the championship in [1997](#). He can become the [ninth individual with at least four Cups as general manager of an NHL team](#). That group includes **Glen Sather** (architect of 1980s Oilers dynasty) and **Bill Torrey** (first president in Panthers history).

\* Zito was an assistant GM for the Blue Jackets across several seasons, with Bobrovsky being a key member of the franchise during that span. Zito's tenure also involved serving as general manager of the [2016 Lake Erie Monsters](#) when they captured a Calder Cup as AHL champions. He can become the sixth individual with at least one Stanley Cup and Calder Cup as a general manager, joining **Keith Allen**, **Julien BriseBois**, **Bob Gainey**, **Serge Savard** and **Neil Smith**.

**HOLLAND, ZITO GOT HYMAN, TKACHUK**

Ken Holland signed Zach Hyman (July 28, 2021), while Bill Zito acquired Matthew Tkachuk (July 22, 2022). The latter deal was the second trade in NHL history featuring 100-point scorers being swapped.

STANLEY CUP FINAL 2024

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## **QUICK CLICKS**

- \* [Joe Pavelski doesn't intend to play in 2024-25](#)
- \* ['Stanley Pup' rescue dog competition to debut June 7 on NHL Network, ESPN+; June 8 on Sportsnet](#)
- \* [Intuit QuickBooks and the National Hockey League announce multi-year Canadian partnership](#)
- \* [NHL on TNT wraps its third season with notable network highs](#)
- \* [2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs are most-watched through three rounds across U.S. since 1996](#)



**STATS AND INFORMATION**

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## 2024 STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS ARE MOST-WATCHED THROUGH THREE ROUNDS ACROSS U.S. SINCE '96; CONFERENCE FINALS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA UP 34% YOY

Through three rounds, the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs are the most-watched playoffs since 1996 across the U.S. and are the most-watched playoffs since 2018 across North America:

- Across North America, the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs Conference Finals delivered an average audience of 3.9 million viewers, up 34% YOY. (ABC/ESPN/TNT/truTV/Sportsnet/CBC/TVA Sports)
- Across the U.S., the 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs Conference Finals delivered an average audience of 2 million viewers, up 26% YOY. The 2024 Stanley Cup Playoffs to date are up 14% YOY (1.3 million average audience). (ABC/ESPN/ESPN2/TNT/TBS/truTV)



**STATS AND INFORMATION**